

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) dated Mar. 31, 2005. No communication has been received from the Examiner to date. The decision of the BPAI was to sustain the rejections of claims 1-7, 9, 12-15, 18, 21 and 22, and to reverse the rejection of claims 8, 10, 16, and 17. Applicant respectfully traverses the sustained rejections of claims 1-7, 9, 12-15, 18, 21 and 22 and reserves the right to reintroduce these claims and claims of similar scope in continuing applications.

Applicant has rewritten claims 8, 10, and 16 in independent form, and changed the dependencies of certain dependent claims to depend, directly or indirectly, on one of these allowable independent claims. The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claims 8, 10 and 16 are patentable.

Claims 1, 4, 13-15 and 18-20 have been canceled without prejudice. The cancellation of these claims is solely for the purpose of expediting the prosecution of the present application, and is without limitation and estoppel.

Claims 2, 3, 5-12, 16, 17, 21, and 22 are currently pending and are deemed to be patentable. Applicant respectfully requests an early Notice of Allowance from the Examiner. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 650-333-0180.

Respectfully submitted,

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